



Missouri Lobbying Laws Fact Sheet

Sections 105.470-105.478 RSMo.

Who is a Lobbyist?

A lobbyist is a person who attempts to influence the action of government. In Missouri, there are four types of lobbyists:

- ✓ Legislative lobbyist
- ✓ Executive lobbyist
- ✓ Judicial lobbyist
- ✓ Elected local government official lobbyist

What is a Lobbyist Principal?

A lobbyist principal is any person, business entity, governmental entity, religious organization, nonprofit corporation or association who employs, contracts for pay, or otherwise compensates a lobbyist.

Do Lobbyists have to register and report to the Commission?

Yes, a lobbyist must register with the Commission no later than five (5) days after beginning any activities as a lobbyist. After initial registration there is an annual registration completed between December 1st and January 5th. A current list of registered lobbyists and their principals can be found on the Commission's website. Registered lobbyists report expenses and any business relationships with public/elected officials for the previous month by the 10th of each month as well as file a List of Principals and Legislative Action Report by March 15th and May 30th of each year.

How do I view a copy of the lobbyist's reports?

The Commission publishes lobbyists' reports on the Commission's website on the first day of each month. Reports can be viewed by searching the name of the lobbyist, lobbyist principal, or public official.

What expenses do lobbyists report?

Lobbyists report monies spent by the lobbyist principal and/or the lobbyist. They report monies spent on behalf of the public officials, their staff and employees, and their spouses and dependent children. Reported lobbyist monies spent include food, beverages, gifts, printing, publication, media, other advertising, travel, and entertainment including the time, venue and nature of the entertainment.

A lobbyist may report the total of money spent for an occasion, along with the occasion date and description, when any of the following are invited in writing:

- ✓ All Senate members
- ✓ All House of Representative members
- ✓ All members of a joint committee of the General Assembly

- ✓ All members of a standing committee of the General Assembly
- ✓ All members of a caucus of the majority or minority party of the House or Senate

When reporting a lobbyist must indicate the nature of the expenditure:

- ✓ Solicitation expenditure
- ✓ Individual (name) expenditure
- ✓ Group expenditure

Are there expenses lobbyists are not required to report?

Yes, including the following:

- ✓ Gifts, souvenirs, mementos, or services, unrelated to lobbyist activity and given to family members within the third degree of the lobbyist or principal.
- ✓ Contributions to the public official's campaign committee or candidate committee reported pursuant to Chapter 130, RSMo.
- ✓ Items or services offered to the general public, of minimal value, and not motivated by the recipient's status as a public official.
- ✓ The transfer of any item, provision of any service, or granting of any opportunity necessary for a public official or employer to perform their duty in their official capacity. (An example includes entrance fees to any sporting event, museum, or other venue when the official or employee is participating in their official capacity.)

What is the process for monthly reporting?

- ✓ Lobbyist's monthly report are due by 10th day of each month
- ✓ By 20th of month, MEC provides report (by email) to public/elected officials listing total dollar amounts spent (by month and year to date)
- ✓ Public/elected officials have ten working days to review for accuracy (if there is a discrepancy, contact the lobbyist reporting the expenditure)
- ✓ After the ten working day period has expired the reports are open to the public

What type of information is included in the reports emailed to the officials?

Below are sample reports: Monthly reporting expenditures for the public official and monthly reporting expenditures for employee, staff, spouse or child (supplemental).

Missouri Ethics Commission				
Monthly Reporting Expenditures				
- SENATOR				
Lobbyist Name Category - Description	Date	Type of Expenditure	Amended Report	Reported Amount
Meals, Food, & Beverage - Schulte's Fresh Foods for	1/9/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$200.00
Meals, Food, & Beverage - Local Delegation luncheon	1/23/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$12.50
Meals, Food, & Beverage - Tour of campus	1/28/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$6.64
Meals, Food, & Beverage -	4/16/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$200.00
Meals, Food, & Beverage -	5/8/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$100.00

Missouri Ethics Commission				
Supplemental - Monthly Reporting Expenditures				
(Employee, Staff, Spouse, or Child)				
SENATOR				
Name of Recipient Lobbyist Name Category - Description	Date	Type of Expenditure	Amended Report	Reported Amount
Gift - Gift Card	5/15/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$50.00
Gift -	5/15/2009	Individual	Not Amended	\$50.00
Gift Amended Reason - Did not have correct amount when we filed	5/15/2009	Individual	Amended	(\$12.00)

This document is intended only as a guide to aid in understanding the duties and responsibilities of the Missouri Ethics Commission. For the Law's complete requirements, consult the law itself, codified at Chapter 105 and 130 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.